

**Preliminary Amendment and Response to Restriction Requirement**

Applicant: Spero Payton

Serial No.: 10/753,886

Filed: January 7, 2004

Docket No.: P298.101.101

Title: MANUAL SNOWPLOW WITH A WOODEN BLADE

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**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend claims 2-16 as follows:

1.(Original) A manual snowplowing device comprising:

a rigid wooden blade having a length of not less than 36 inches;

a coupling device including:

a metal faceplate bolted to the wooden blade having a longest dimension not more than one-quarter the length of the blade,

a metal sleeve immovably welded to the face plate and having a terminal end extending angularly relative to the face plate; and

a handle including a distal section mounted within the sleeve of the coupling device;

wherein upon final assembly, extension of the handle relative to a vertical plane of the wooden blade defines an acute push angle.

2.(Currently Amended) The ~~manual snowplowing device method~~ of claim ~~1~~17, wherein providing a snow plowing device further includes the metal faceplate ~~defines~~defining a generally planar front face and the wooden blade ~~defines~~defining a generally planar back face, and further wherein the two faces are flush.

3.(Currently Amended) The ~~manual snowplowing device method~~ of claim ~~1~~17, wherein providing a snow plowing device further includes the handle ~~extends~~extending from the terminal end of the metal sleeve to define the acute push angle.

4.(Currently Amended) The ~~manual snowplowing device method~~ of claim ~~1~~17, wherein providing a snow plowing device further includes the faceplate ~~is being~~ generally triangular in shape.

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5.(Currently Amended) The ~~manual snowplowing device method~~ of claim ~~17~~, wherein providing a snow plowing device further includes the faceplate is being generally rectangular in shape.

6.(Currently Amended) The ~~manual snowplowing device method~~ of claim 5, wherein the faceplate has a length not more than one-sixth the length of the wooden blade.

7.(Currently Amended) The ~~manual snowplowing device method~~ of claim 5, wherein the faceplate has a length in the range of 6-8 inches.

8.(Currently Amended) The ~~manual snowplowing device method~~ of claim 5, wherein the snowplowing device is characterized by an absence of components contacting a back face of the wooden blade beyond a length of the face plate.

9.(Currently Amended) The ~~manual snowplowing device method~~ of claim ~~17~~, wherein providing a manual snow plowing device further includes the metal sleeve extends ~~extending~~ linearly from the metal faceplate.

10.(Currently Amended) The ~~manual snowplowing device method~~ of claim ~~17~~, wherein providing a manual snow plowing device further includes both the faceplate and being the sleeve are formed of stainless steel.

11.(Currently Amended) The ~~manual snowplowing device method~~ of claim ~~17~~, wherein providing a manual snow plowing device further includes the wooden blade has ~~having~~ a height of not less than 4.5 inches.

12.(Currently Amended) The ~~manual snowplowing device method~~ of claim 11, wherein providing a manual snow plowing device further includes the wooden blade has ~~having~~ a length of approximately 48 inches and a height of approximately 5.5 inches.

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13.(Currently Amended)     The ~~manual snowplowing device method~~ of claim ~~11~~7, wherein providing a manual snow plowing device further includes the wooden blade is being formed of pine wood.

14.(Currently Amended)     The ~~manual snowplowing device method~~ of claim ~~11~~7, wherein providing a manual snow plowing device further includes the distal section of the handle ~~includes including~~ a metal jacket.

15.(Currently Amended)     The ~~manual snowplowing device method~~ of claim ~~11~~7, wherein providing a manual snow plowing device further includes the distal section of the handle is being mounted within the sleeve by a bolting means.

16.(Currently Amended)     The ~~manual snowplowing device method~~ of claim ~~11~~7, wherein providing a manual snow plowing device further includes the distal section of the handle and the sleeve ~~include including~~ a plurality of corresponding threads.

17.(Original) A method of plowing snow comprising:

    providing a manual snow plowing device including:

        rigid wooden blade having a length of not less than 36 inches,

        a coupling device comprising:

            a metal faceplate immovably bolted to the wooden blade, the face plate having a longest dimension not more than one-quarter the length of the blade,

            a metal sleeve immovably welded to the faceplate, the sleeve having a terminal end extending angularly relative to the faceplate,

        a handle including:

            a distal section mounted within the sleeve of the coupling device,

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wherein upon final assembly, extension of the handle relative to a vertical plane of the blade defines an acute push angle; and  
plowing a snow covered surface by imparting a push force on the handle, wherein a front face of the wooden blade contacts a mass of snow and a bottom side of the wooden blade contacts the surface to be cleared of snow.

18.(Original) The method of plowing snow of claim 17, wherein the method further comprises:  
unbolting the wooden blade from the faceplate;  
rotating the wooden blade one hundred and eighty degrees, wherein a top side of the blade is located where the bottom side of the blade was previously situated in relation to the snow covered surface;  
rebolting the wooden blade to the faceplate; and  
plowing additional snow.

19.(Original) A kit of parts for assembly into a manual snowplowing device comprising:  
a rigid wooden blade having a length of not less than 36 inches;  
a coupling device including:  
a metal faceplate having a longest dimension not more than one-quarter the length of the blade,  
a metal sleeve removably welded to the faceplate and having a terminal end extending at an angle relative to the faceplate; and  
a handle including a distal section to be mounted within the sleeve of the coupling device;  
wherein the kit is configured such that upon final assembly, extension of the handle relative to a vertical plane of the blade defines an acute push angle.

20.(Original) The kit of parts of claim 19, wherein the kit further comprises a set of directions for assembly and a plurality of fasteners to be used for assembly.